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offered numerous testimonials to his simple and charming personal character. An excellent portrait of Professor WOLF may be found in *Himmel und Erde*, January, 1894, page 190.

W. W. C.

MEDALLION OF JAMES LICK.

The plate given in No. 33 is copied from a negative by Mr. A. L. COLTON from the medallion of Mr. LICK described in these *Publications*, Volume V, page 228.

AWARD OF THE JANSSEN PRIZE TO DR. LANGLEY.

The JANSSEN Prize of the Paris Academy of Sciences has been awarded to Dr. S. P. LANGLEY, Director of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, for his researches on the distribution of the heat in the normal solar spectrum and to the influence exerted on this distribution by the solar and terrestrial atmosphere respectively.

E. S. H.

NEW NEBULA.

A faint nebula was found while charting faint stars with the 36-inch telescope on January 25th.

The approximate place for 1894.0 is

A. R. $1^{\text{h}} 58^{\text{m}} 40^{\text{s}}$

Decl. $2^{\circ} 14' \text{ N}$

The place for 1860, Epoch of the N. G. C., is

A. R. $1^{\text{h}} 56^{\text{m}} 55^{\text{s}}$

N. P. D. $87^{\circ} 56'$

It is somewhat elongated, with but little condensation.

R. H. T.

PHOTOGRAPHY OF LIGHT OF SHORT WAVE-LENGTH [BY DR. VICTOR SCHUMANN].

“An account of Dr. VICTOR SCHUMANN’S successes in photographing rays of very short wave-lengths is given in No. 50 of the *Naturwissenschaftliche Rundschau*. These successes are entirely due to the elimination of absorption by the material used in the prisms and lenses, and, what is specially noteworthy, of the layers of air intervening between the luminous source and the plate used for photographing the spectrum. This elimination

has resulted in the exhaustive exploration of the hitherto doubtful ultra-violet region between 231.4 and $185.2\mu\mu$ and the annexation of the region down to $100\mu\mu$ to the known spectrum. For this it was necessary to get rid of the absorption due to the film of gelatine in which the sensitive silver salt was imbedded, and this was accomplished by the substitution of a pure silver bromide plate. The camera, the spectroscopic apparatus and the spark tube were all connected together and exhausted. The very first exposure on the hydrogen spectrum showed that the known radiations of that gas only represent a portion of its total radiance. The newly-traced portion turned out to be extremely rich in lines, with a maximum at about $162\mu\mu$, and consisted of fifteen groups of lines disposed pretty evenly, containing altogether about 600 lines, with intensities decreasing from the maximum in both directions, rapidly at first and then very gradually. The wave-lengths of these lines are as yet undetermined. Provisionally, that of the smallest wave-length recorded is estimated at $100\mu\mu$. The spectra of aluminium, cadmium, cobalt and other metals end at about $170\mu\mu$. A layer of normal air 1^{mm} in thickness appears capable of absorbing all radiation of smaller wave-length than that. Dry gelatine absorbs eagerly all wave-lengths beyond $217\mu\mu$. Quartz is not suitable for prisms and lenses, and white fluor-spar is, so far, the only material that answers all requirements. The accurate determination of the new wave-lengths, the further investigation of the absorption due to air and the further extension of the ultra-violet region are the problems which Herr SCHUMANN is now working at."—Extract from *Nature* of January 11, 1894.

THEORY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PHOTOMETRY.

In the *Monthly Notices* of the Royal Astronomical Society (Vol. 54, page 65), Captain ABNEY gives the results of his recent experiments in photographic photometry. Many experiments before 1889 had led Captain ABNEY to the conclusion (*Report B. A. A. S.*, 1889, P. 487), that "for any ordinary light, intensity and exposure are interchangeable" except when the light is very feeble. The same conclusion is stated in *Nature*, October 10, 1889, page 584, as follows: "The deposit of silver made by different intensities of light varies directly as the intensity of light acting—this, of course, within such limits that reversal of the